

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 51 October 2004 No. 8

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Calendar			
Sun., Oct. 24	Tree walk, starting Penn Place, 2 pm (see box, p 3)	Thurs., Nov. 4	GP Music Club Jam Session, Town Hall, 7 pm
Wed., Oct. 27	Citizens Association Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm	Fri., Nov. 5	Deadline for submitting names for babysitting/snowshoveling list (see p 6)
Fri., Oct. 29	Schools' Halloween parade, 1:15–1:30-ish (see p 5); Film Society, <i>Delicatessen</i> , Town	Mon., Nov. 8	Town Council meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm
Sat., Oct. 30	Hall, 8 pm (see p 5) Town pumpkin carve, Penn Place basketball court, 1 pm (Town Hall if bad weather); judging of pumpkins, Penn Place, 6:30–7 pm (see p 3); haunted woods in Porcupine Woods, 7–8:30 pm	Tues., Nov. 9	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline, 4 pm
		Sat., Nov. 13	GPNS Art & Craft Fair, Town Hall, 10 am–5 pm
		Sun., Nov. 14	GPNS Art & Craft Fair, Town Hall, 10 am–5 pm
Sun., Oct. 31	Daylight Savings Time ends, 2 am; put clocks back 1 hour;	Fri., Nov. 19	Film Society, Run Lola Run, Town Hall, 8 pm (see p 5)
Tues., Nov. 2	Trick or Treat Night Election Day; do your part and vote	Sat., Nov. 20	Last (maybe) Farmers' Market at Penn Place for the year
		Thurs Nov 25	Hanny Thankegiving!

The Ghost and Mrs. Penn

The October meeting of the Town Council had a number of spooky touches. There was the reminder about the Halloween night walk in the frightening woods, when children are invited to enter Porcupine Woods and get scared by adults hiding behind trees. There was the Town Administrator's eerie statement that a recent administra-

tive idea of his turned out badly because "I was trying to create a hermaphrodite, a very rare and unsuccessful form of life." And there was the report that for some time now a number of people have heard a muffled dog's bark coming out of Penn Place at night: "It was, I think," said the Mayor, "the ghost of Mrs. Penn's dog."

Thurs., Nov. 25 Happy Thanksgiving!

(continued next page)

Garrett Park Citizens Association Garrett Park, Maryland 20896-0456

Bulk Rate U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 2

P.O. Boxholder Garrett Park, Maryland 20896 (continued from previous page)

Despite this disturbing background, the mundane business of the town went on. Elin Quigley reminded everyone about the Attic in the Street Sale on Saturday (your reporter's family drove by and it looked very busy). Gene Brantly mentioned that one of the Citizens Association's two Issues Forums will take place in November (exact date to be announced) and that Garrett Parkers should think about issues they'd like to have raised.

The Mayor's report began with an announcement that Traffic Systems Inc. will paint the aluminum poles green for us (no paint party, in other words).

On the day before the Town Council meeting, a group of townspeople went to Penn Place and began work to restore the island that used to be in the middle of the road. The Mayor extended special thanks to Hans Wegman, Chris Keller, Dick Pratt, and Harry Gordon. And on the subject of town streets, the Mayor mentioned that the lighting company charged with fixing the glare on the town street lights will very soon install a sample of its anti-glare technology.

The Council then discussed various landscaping as well as parking issues at the now very-busy area around the new Penn Place. Tony Altar suggested that for aesthetic as well as safety reasons we consider not having a parking place directly in front of the restaurant. Questions were also raised about what is likely to be planted in the newly rebuilt island; Chris Keller said it was probably not going to be azaleas (which used to be there)maybe some combination of grasses. No decision has yet been made. There will be timbers around the island.

What sort of parking signs, and what sort of parking enforcement, is Garrett Park planning to have in the area of Penn Place? The town will begin by checking the signs we have now as we prepare for new signs, not just at Penn Place, but in other locations around Garrett Park. No one was happy about the amount of signage in town, but, said Councilmember Wegner, "Signage, while it may not be desirable, is necessary." Also on the subject of traffic and streets: A four-way stop will be installed at the intersection of Montrose and Waverley. Forty people in town signed a petition asking that this be done, and the Council was willing to do it.

As for the dumpster and the trailer still in place where the temporary post office used to be, the Mayor announced that "The trailer should go this week, and the dumpster will also go soon.'

The Mayor thanked Ted Pratt, Laura Krupp, Frank, and Butch for their "herculean efforts" in getting Penn Place up and running. One significant outstanding problem, however, is the oversensitive security system, which has had the Mayor out of bed at three in the morning dealing with its outbursts.

Under Councilmember reports, Chris Keller announced the upcoming Tree Walk, which will meet at Penn Place at 2 on October 24 (see box, p 3). Phil Normandy, the town's consulting arborist, will lead the walk, always a great opportunity to get to know the impressive trees of the town.

The question of how to configure the newly reborn Keeper of the Keys position—a person who would oversee the use of the Town Hallwas once again discussed. "Use of this facility has grown exponentially," explained Laura Krupp. There's disagreement as to whether this should be a stand-alone, advertised-for position, or whether the responsibility should be added to the job description of a person already on staff. Nothing was resolved, and Ted Pratt said he would think about the problem some more.

A motion that Garrett Park adopt Montgomery County vendor ordinances passed.

Under information items: In answer to a question from the floor (10 or so citizens were present in the audience), the Mayor said that in the next few days a surface appropriate for posting notices will go up in the post office. It will be located in the right side alcove, near the stairs.

The town's budget, Ted announced in his administrator's report, is now \$50,000 in surplus.

The meeting was still going on when your reporter left, but discussion as she moved toward the door was of the mysterious bones found during construction work at Penn Place...

Margaret Soltan



The Garrett Bugle is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the *Bugle* is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$10 per family or \$5 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

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Town Administrator Notes

On the Move (2): The Town Office is completely moved in to the top floor of Penn Place. The elevator is working—be patient, it's slow. Remember to wait until the door closes before pushing the button, and you'll be on your way. There are the inevitable loose ends, but the building is fully operational and looks just great. Please stop by the office and see our bright new space.

Leaf Removal: Autumn is fast upon us and the leaves are turning. As before, Bethke Landscaping will be removing leaves for the town, starting the week of October 25 and continuing until December 31. Each street will be cleared once every week, as early in the week as possible (rain delays collections). Leaves should be placed in rows along the curb. Please remove sticks, trash, and other debris that could damage the machinery, and do not shred the leaves. If you have any problems, please call the Town Office: 301- 933-7488.

Yard Waste Removal: Remember, from November through February, yard waste will be collected the first Wednesday of each month. That dependable harbinger of spring, weekly collection, will resume in March.

Children and Leaves: Please warn your children not to play in the leaves piled along the street for removal. There is considerable risk of being hit by a car, even on Garrett Park's quiet streets. If you are driving near a pile of leaves, treat it as you would a ball rolling into the street. Assume a child is nearby and likely to run into the street.

Strathmore Avenue: The project moves along, and it is now possible to see the outline of the new street layout. The plan is to complete underlayment paving on the north side in order both to protect the new curbing from snow plows and to allow traffic to travel close to the curb. This is necessary, as installation of new curbing on the south side will cut into the existing roadway quite a distance in a number of places. Also, the Town Council has agreed to pay for the painting of the new Strathmore street lights, so that instead of harsh aluminum they will be a dark green. Much more in keeping with the character of the

Garrett Park Children's Center

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301-946-6192 Amanda Hawk town! The installation of the stone veneer on the new retaining walls will most likely begin in the spring.

Your Town Needs You! Volunteers are needed to serve on both the Parks & Open Space Committee and on a task force to study the various uses of the planting strips alongside the roads in the town's rights of way and to make recommendations to the Council regarding regulation of uses such as parking pads, driveways, and permanent landscape structures. If serving your town in either capacity interests you, please contact Town Office at 301-933-7488.

A Final Note: With the passing of September, I enter my third year as your Administrator/ Clerk-Treasurer. The time has gone by very quickly! I have enjoyed my job and really appreciate the warm support and friendship residents have extended to me. I look forward to next year.

Ted Pratt Town Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

The Arboretum Committee invites you to join the

Annual Autumn Tree Walk

which will depart from Penn Place at 2 pm on Sunday, October 24. Phil Normandy, the town's arborist, will lead this informative tour of our trees, old and new. Dress for the weather and bring a friend.

Halloween Fun

Calling all town ghosts and goblins! (Fairy princesses, too!) You're invited to Garrett Park's haunted Porcupine Woods (and other activities).

All adults and children of Garrett Park, Garrett Park Estates, and White Flint Estates are welcome at the Halloween activities taking place on Saturday, October 30, at Penn Place. The fun kicks off with a pumpkin carving at 1 pm. All participants are asked to bring their own pumpkins, carving tools, and trash bag. At 6 pm, a jacko'-lantern judging will take place at Penn Place. Bring already carved Jack-o'-lanterns to the area by the tennis courts between 6 and 6:15 pm. Judging will occur between 6:15 and 7 pm. During this time, Black Market will be providing light refreshments for all. The annual walk through haunted Porcupine Woods will take place between 7 and 8:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to wear their costumes to all events!

If there is bad weather, the carving and judging will take place at the Garrett Park Town Hall.

We can use lots of help for this fun day! Please consider helping during some part of the day. Adults, teens, and young adults needed! If you can help, please call Matt and Theresa Stavish.

Obituaries

Louise Nickell Horn

Louise Nickell Horn died on September 18, 2004. She was born January 10, 1916, in Sinks Grove, West Virginia, where her Scotch Irish great-great-great-grandfather John Nickell settled after coming from Ireland in 1749. John Nickell's six sons fought in the Revolutionary War at Point Pleasant. When Louise was a toddler, the Nickells purchased a dairy farm near Rising Sun in Cecil County, Maryland. She graduated from Calvert Agricultural High School in 1933 and attended Blue Ridge College in Union Bridge, Maryland. In her junior year she transferred to Western Maryland College (which much to her chagrin was renamed McDaniel College) in Westminster, Maryland. In 1937, Louise graduated with degrees in education and music.

Louise began her career as a music teacher in Cumberland, Maryland, where she traveled from school to school. It was during this time that she met her husband-to-be, Harold Martin Horn, at Dye's boarding house. On December 27, 1941, Louise and Harold married and traveled to various Army posts at the beginning of the war. While they were stationed at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina, their first child, Barbara, was born on September 17, 1943. When Harold was sent overseas, Louise and her baby returned to the Nickell farm in Cecil County. After Harold returned from the war on January 10, 1946, they lived briefly with Harold's sister at 1723 Hobart Street, NW, in the Mount Pleasant section of Washington, D.C. In June 1946, they moved to Garrett Park, where their son Ron was born May 3, 1947. While her children were young, Louise gave private piano lessons in her home, volunteered as a Girl Scout Leader, was a member of the Garrett Park Players, was active in the Garrett Park Parent Teacher Association, was Choir Director at Trinity Lutheran Church, and worked as a substitute teacher in the Montgomery County Public Schools. She returned to teaching English full-time in 1960 and served as the sponsor of the yearbook at Gaithersburg High School. She retired in June 1974 to care for her husband Harold until his death on September 18, 1974.

Following Harold's death, Louise served as a docent at the Smithsonian Institution's Arts and Industries Museum, where one of her responsibilities included playing the piano. She also taught English to speakers of other languages and returned to her Presbyterian "roots." Louise became an active member of Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church, where she applied her musical gifts as a member of the Chancel and Bell Choirs, and for a time she served as the director of the Bell Choir. Louise continued to be active in Garrett Park, serving as Judge of Elections and playing the piano for many community events. Of course, she also had an active social life: Salt Shakers, gardening, bridge and piano groups, Lunch Bunch, concerts, plays, movies, book discussions and cocktails, and on occasion playing piano at the Hyatt in San Francisco.

Louise enjoyed her family as it continued to expand. Daughter Barbara and her husband Jim Wagner had three children, Jen, Brian, and Pam. Son Ron Horn and his wife Elke had two children, Danny and Patrick. Louise also had the pleasure of being a great-grandmother to five.

She will be greatly missed by her family, her friends, her church, and her community. A celebration of life will be held at Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church, 10123 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington, on October 24 at 1:30 pm. For those who wish to formally remember her, it was her request that memorial contributions be made to the Music Department of Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Barbara Wagner

Evelyn Harris

On September 11, my mother, Evelyn Harris, a 50-year resident of Garrett Park, passed away. She would have been 85 on October 22. Born to Russian immigrant parents and raised in Greenwich Village, Evelyn earned a degree in biology from Hunter College. She came to Washington to work for the Bureau of Standards during the war. There she met my father, Mark Harris, an engineer. Eventually the six of us moved into our two-bedroom Chevy house on Montrose Avenue. In 1964 my parents designed and built the redwood addition, but the yard, with its dogwoods and azaleas, remained the real attraction for my mother. In Garrett Park, my mother found an oasis of beauty and a strong community. Along with many of their friends, my parents contributed to Garrett Park's identity as a tolerant, enlightened, liberal community. We are very proud of our parents' active involvement in the peace movement and the fight for civil rights.

My mother had several jobs over the years. She worked for an entomologist, was a docent at the National Gallery, and worked in the book department at Hecht's, among other things. She frequented Washington's museums, theaters, and concert halls. A voracious and eclectic reader, my mother loved to play with ideas and converse on a wide variety of subjects, from philosophy to black holes. She was a painter and a poet. Individualistic and independent to the end, my mother savored her life in Garrett Park. We all feel lucky to have grown up here and are grateful to the fine folks on Montrose Avenue and beyond who befriended, supported, and loved her. We especially want to thank all our very dear old friends who turned out to honor her. Her famous dog, Sassy, now resides happily with my brother Michael.

Deborah Harris

Obituaries (cont'd)

Lex W. Barnett

Lex Barnett, who lived at 10806 Montrose Avenue, died July 8 at Manor Care Nursing Home from complications related to several health problems. A Garrett Park resident for 51 years, he was born in Brookville, Pennsylvania, and worked for Prudential Insurance Company until World War II. He was a member of the Petrolia Masonic lodge in Oil City, Pennsylvania, for over 50 years.

After the war, he became manager of the service department of Ozalid Company, and later he became the national trouble-shooter for the company. But the almost full-time travel and writing of reports became a burden. He resigned in 1962, and joined the Diamond Cab Company in D.C.

He loved people; he loved D.C.; he loved to drive and had many private customers. So he was a happy cab driver until he retired in 1978.

Lex is survived by his wife, Betty Barnett, of Garrett Park; a daughter, Lexie McMahon (from an earlier marriage); two grandsons; and three grandchildren.

Two Films Planned

The Film Society has two fun, frantic, and fantastic films on tap. The first is Delicatessen, on Friday, October 29, at 8 pm in the Town Hall. This futuristic comic feast is part comedy; part sci-fi, part romance, and just in time for Halloween. Like our previous showings of Chocolat and Babette's Feast, this is another food-oriented movie. Sort of. Delicatessen combines Grimm's fairy stories with Terry Gilliam, in a tale of star-crossed lovers and small town cannibalism. The BBC review called it a "hugely enjoyable film, welding comedy and magic into a bizarre, grotesque fantasy of an oddball dystopian future ... nothing can prepare you for the sheer weirdness of it all." Janet Maslin of the New York Times called it a "studiously zany French fantasy film, a lightweight but sometimes subversively stylish farce." Be sure to watch the wildly inventive credit sequence! The film is in French with subtitles. Food will be offered for sale beginning at 7:15 pm. Naturally, the food will mirror the movie's theme. Expect a range of offerings, including finger sandwiches, eye-scream bars, and bloody martinis. Admission is free for Film Society members and \$5 per person/\$10 per family maximum for nonmembers.

Desson Howe calls Run Lola Run "Groundhog Day as made by hip Berlin filmmakers, a kinetic experiment with pulsating music, an arty piece of fun hokum and the most nondemanding fun [you've] ever had with a movie." Run Lola Run will be shown on Friday night, November 19, at 8 pm in the Town Hall. Lola has 20 minutes to get the 100,000 deutschmarks that will save her thug boyfriend's life and goes running through Berlin in search of the loot. The film takes you on three different journeys, telling the plot three times, with wildly inventive variations. Peter Rainer of New York magazine says "it offers some of the same pleasures as the silent slapstick comedies, particularly the Keaton films, with their sense of how sheer velocity carries its own wit." The film is in German, with subtitles. German-themed food will be offered for sale beginning at 7:15 pm. Admission is free for Film Society members and \$5 per person/\$10 per family maximum for nonmembers.

GPES

Garrett Park Elementary is off to a rolling start this year. Fire drills have proceeded well, and the key cards are working, so all doors remain locked while school is in session. The Sally Foster fundraiser and the 5th grade bulb sale have been completed. In the wings are the PTA Bingo night and silent auction and the T-shirt sale for the student council. Halloween plans are starting to simmer. Look for the office staff and others to be dressed up as the characters from a famous book during the parade.

This year the parade, which includes GPES, Holy Cross Elementary, the co-op nursery, and the day care center, will begin from the parking lot around 1:30 pm, go down Oxford towards Montrose and make a U turn to come back towards the school on Friday, October 29. In case of bad weather, each school will do its own thing inside its buildings. Since no one came forward to organize the UNICEF drive, or hasn't up to the time of writing, the collection will probably not happen this year.

Mary Moyer

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Arboretum Notes

The Arboretum Committee is looking for some fine specimen trees

from local nurseries to plant before winter sets in. One stately specimen of copper beech (*Fagus sylvatica* 'riversii') was received from Merrifield Nursery in Manassas and planted at the corner of Albemarle and Rokeby Avenues (4709 Albemarle Avenue). You can't miss it when you walk by the intersection—it's 12 feet tall! Thanks to Butch for the prompt work.

Plans are also afoot to enhance the plantings around the sides of Penn Place in time for spring flowering.

You may want to take a look at the Arboretum website (www.garrettpark.org), which Els Benjamin has expertly updated.

We're Green Again!

Our green banner this month is courtesy of Rulon Mayer and Heather Chen-Mayer of Keswick. Last April they donated to our banner fund, and we thank them most gratefully. We will be green for all of this printing year, thanks to generosity of our readers. So I will not be asking again for money in this spot until April. However, if anyone would like to start the ball rolling for the 2005/06 printing year, feel free to just send a check for \$25 (the minimum donation required) or \$37 (the actual printing cost) to Mary Moyer, Box 98, Garrett Park, or put it in my front porch mail box. (Yes, I kept the box. Margaret Solton got a new one!) Thanks in advance.

Mary Moyer

Wanted: Job Seekers

We are collecting names for the snowshoveling and babysitting list for the winter months. If anyone 13 years or older would like to be put on the list, please either email cdavies@csc.com or call 301-942-6130 by November 5. Leave your name, age, phone number, and what job you would like to do.

Reminder to householders: the sidewalks in front of your house are yours to shovel so that pedestrians do not have to walk in the street. They need to be clean (the sidewalks, that is, not the pedestrians) within 24 hours.

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Newcomers Initiated

"This is the cult initiation," said one town wit as newcomers to Garrett Park were asked, on the evening of Wednesday, September 29, to gather at the Town Hall's stage for their official welcome. It was a beautiful, clear night. The newcomers looked happy to be here, and we were certainly happy to greet them.

Our new neighbors include a scientist most recently at Princeton and now working for the government, and a specialist in the discovery and disposal of nuclear materials. Perhaps he can ascertain whether Garrett Park is indeed, as advertised, a Nuclear Free Zone.

Gene Brantly, the head of the Citizens Association, introduced that group and the Town Council, and then various people described aspects of the town of which newcomers should be aware: among them, the swimming pool, the Women's Club, the Arboretum, the Film Society, the Casual Musicians Club, and of course the exciting new post office. "You've moved into a town that's enormously volunteer-oriented," said the Mayor. "We hope we can get you involved in some of that."

There was a table in the middle of the room with yellow and pink chrysanthemums on it, plus some very nice finger food, and there were drinks out in the hall. Many confident and bright children ran about. One asserted that she liked the topiary bull in front of your reporter's house, and as a result got her name in the print edition of the paper.

After a good bit of mingling between old and new townspeople, we all applauded Laura Krupp for having put on a perfect event.

Margaret Soltan





Bugle Notes...Sweet and Sour

- At the Citizens Association's annual Newcomers Welcome in September, we were pleased to see so many friendly new faces in our town. Please welcome them all:
 - Mark and Tammy Shields, with their daughter and son, moved into the new house on the south side of Kenilworth Avenue—very convenient for Flora, who is attending the Nursery School.
 - John and Melissa Bronez Lewis, and their 8-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter, moved into the Dicksons' old house on Kenilworth.
 - Oleg and Valerie Bukharin have two children and are living in the white house on Rokeby near the Inghams.
 - → Janet Bjorklund has moved into the house right next to the Town Hall.

- ♪ And Bill Elwood has made his new home in the Loebs' old home on Shelley Court.
- A newcomer to the world is the newest granddaughter of former mayor Peter Benjamin and his wife Kathy.
- The Osmond family is growing again. Over the summer, their son Jeffrey and his wife Fatou had their second son. This is Jackie and Paul's seventh grandchild!
- Carol Davies Lillie just returned from Santa Cruz, where she played in the USGA Senior Women's Amateur Championship. Steve and his son won the Adult/Junior Golf Championship at Argyle Country Club. Way to go, Lillie family! By the way, what do you people eat for breakfast?
- → Jenny Bodine is teaching mathematics at Georgetown Prep after recently graduating from Columbia University. Sweet commute!



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Letter from the Mayor

There are a number of things to celebrate this month. First, Penn Place is open, including the Post Office. Our brave and very dedicated postal staff worked with the movers, which included J. C. Walter and our Town maintenance worker, Frank, until 2 am in order to get everything from the trailer to Penn Place. Later that morning, the Post Office opened for business in its new space promptly at 7, even though the Postal Service workers looked very tired. Second, as of Wednesday, October 13, the Black Market will be serving all three meals and light snacks in the afternoon. Third, our Town Office has moved from the Town Hall to Penn Place. We are extremely fortunate to have a very loyal and hard-working town staff. They have worked many more hours than required to keep things working smoothly for us. At the end of the month, we will all be able to enjoy the labors of many volunteers as we go for a scary walk through Porcupine Woods on the night before Halloween, October 30.

In addition to our town staff, we continue to get the help of many citizen volunteers. Last Sunday, Councilmembers Chris Keller and Hans Wegner joined Harry Gordon, Penn Place Project Manager Dick Pratt, and me in laying out the "island" in Park Place along the railroad tracks. We are hoping that the trailer and dumpster for the last of the construction debris will disappear this week, so that about 60 new parking places may be laid out and marked. Last night the Town Council approved signage for the area around Penn Place. When you come to Penn Place, please be watchful of the new parking arrangements. The Council also approved stop signs on Waverly

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Market

Grosvenor Place

Avenue at Montrose, which will become a fourway stop on November 1.

Volunteers Needed: There are two opportunities to join in the activities of the Town. The Parks and Open Spaces Committee would like to have new members and can use a number of enthusiastic people. The Council would also like help in forming a task force to study driveways and parking pads and other uses of the Town's right of way. The taskforce will be small and, we hope, short term, but will need people with some technical expertise in standards development. We plan to create standards for driveways, parking pads, and other uses of the town's right of way; these standards will become part of the town's permitting process. If you are interested in helping with either, please call the Town Office at 301-933-7488.



